

## Message Text

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11

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 EB-11 COME-00 OMB-01 TRSE-00 PM-07

NSC-10 SS-15 RSC-01 L-03 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSR-01

AID-20 /094 W

----- 126107

P 190820Z JUL 73

FM AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2175

INFO SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY

CINCPAC PRIORITY

USSAG NKP THAI

C O N F I D E N T I A L PHNOM PENH 7301

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINR, M/P, CB

SUBJECT: TRANSPORTATION OF RUBBER ON THE MEKONG

1. MR. JEAN REMY, DIRECTOR GENERAL, COMPAGNIR DU CAMBODGE CALLED ON THE DEFENSE ATTACHE (DATT) AT THE AMERICAN EMBASSY ON 14 JULY. THE PURPOSE OF HIS VISIT WAS TO ADVISE THE MISSION OF ARRANGEMENTS BEING MADE FOR THE TRANSPORTATION OF RAW RUBBER FROM THE RUBBER PLANTATIONS OF THE COMPANY OF CAMBODIA IN THE VICINITY OF KAMPONG CHAM. THE ROAD CONNECTING KAMPONG CHAM TO PHNOM PENH WAS CUT ON 19 JUNE BY ENEMY ACTION.

2. MR. REMY PROVIDED THE DATT TWO PAPERS. THE FIRST WAS HIS REQUEST TO THE HIGH COMMAND OF THE KHMER ARMED FORCES TO AUTHORIZE THE ACTIVITY AS WELL AS PROPOSING SPECIFIC ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE MOVEMENT OF BOATS INVOLVED. THE SECOND PAPER WAS A COPY OF A MESSAGE FROM THE JOINT GENERAL STAFF, FANK, TO THE COMMANDER OF THE 1ST MILITARY REGION, COMMANDERS AND CHIEFS OF STAFF OF THE KHMER NAVY AND AIR FORCE. THE TEXT OF THE MESSAGE IS PROVIDED. QUOTE. MSG NO 4661/3D BUREAU/COMBAT OPERATIONS CENTER. HIGH COMMAND HAS AUTHORIZED BEGINNING 18 JULY  
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1973 FOR A PERIOD OF ONE MONTH, RENEWABLE, THE COMPANY

OF CAMBODIA TO ORGANIZE RIVER CONVOYS ON THE MKONG TO TRANSPORT RAW RUBBER FROM KAMPONG CHAM TO PHNOM PENH. FIRST TRIP DEPARTS KAMPONG CHAM 18 JULY. RETURN FROM PHNOM PENH EMPTY 21 JULY. HALT POINTS FOR OVERNIGHT EN ROUTE (UPSTREAM) ARE ROKAR-KONG AND PEAM CHIKANG. BOATS USED: MOTOR LAUNCHES NUMBERED HF 3336, HF 3201, HF 3482, HF 3354; JUNKS NUMBERED HF 3445, HF 3498, HF 21158, HF 33101, HF 3427, HF 3980, HF 3725, HF 2819, HF 1664, AND HF 2718. ONE SMALL BOAT NO. 10444. DISTINCTIVE SIGNS: 1) ON THE TOP PANEL 2MXLM IN BLACK ON YELLOW BACKGROUND LETTERS "C.C." WITH NUMBER ABOVE. 2) ON EACH SIDE A PANEL 2MXIM WITH BLACK LETTERS "C.C." ON WHITE BACKGROUND. 3) ON THE STERN A 2MXIM FLAG OF WHITE CLOTH WITH LETTERS "C.C." IN BLACK. 4) CONTROL OF THIS MOVEMENT WILL BE BY THE 1ST MILITARY REGION AT KAMPONG CHAM AND THE KHMER NAVY AT PHNOM PENH UNQUOTE.

3. IN A SEPARATE CONVERSATION ON THAT SAME DAY WITH A MEMBER OF ECON THE EMBASSY ECONOMIC SECTION, MR. REMY INDICATED THAT ARRANGEMENTS WORKED OUT WITH THE ENEMY CALL FOR LOADING OF RUBBER TO TAKE PLACE ON THE KAMPONG CHAM SIDE OF THE RIVER, AND SPECIFICALLY PRECLUDE TRANSPORTATION OF RICE AND FUEL ON THE RETURN TRIP FROM PHNOM PENH TO KAMPONG CHAM. MR. REMY EXPRESSED THE OPINION THAT IF RICE WERE TO BE SHIPPED TO KAMPONG CHAM THE ENEMY WOULD DEMAND SOME COMPENSATION IN KIND. THE FIRST CONVOY WAS SCHEDULED TO LEAVE KAMPONG CHAM ON JULY 18, BUT AS OF JULY 14 MR. REMY UNDERSTOOD THAT THE ENEMY HAD ASKED FOR A TWO DAY POSTPONMENT. THE FIRST CONVOY IS EXPECTED TO CARRY 200 MT OF RUBBER. IF EVERYTHING GOES ACCORDING TO PLANS, THE SUBSEQUENT TONNAGE PER CONVOY WILL BE INCREASED TO 500 MT. EACH CONVOY WILL TAKE APPROXIMATELY 24 HOURS TO REACH PHNOM PENH, AND 36 HOURS TO RETURN TO KAMPONG CHAM, EVEN IF EMPTY, BECAUSE OF THE CURRENT. RUBBER THUS TRANSPORTED TO PHNOM PENH WILL BE SHARED BY THE VARIOUS COMPANIES, EVEN THOUGH IT WILL ORIGINATE FROM COMPAGNIE DU CAMBODGE'S PLANTATION IN CHUP. HOWEVER, IN THE NEAR FUTURE RUBBER IS EXPECTED TO REACH KAMPONG CHAM FROM THE MIMOT PLANTATION, ON THE BASIS OF INFORMATION OBTAINED BY MR. REMY THAT THE ROAD

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AND BRIDGES BETWEEN MIMOT AND KAMPONG CHAM HAVE BEEN REPAIRED BY THE ENEMY.

4. THE ARRANGEMENTS HAVE U.S. MISSION APPROVAL. WE REQUEST THAT U.S. AIR OPERATIONS NOT INTERFERE WITH THE BOATS IDENTIFIED IN PARA 2. FURTHER SPECIFIC INFORMATION ON MOVEMENTS OF CONVOYS WILL BE REPORTED SEPARATELY. SWANK

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** RUBBER, INLAND WATERWAY TRANSPORTATION  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 19 JUL 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** elyme  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1973PHNOM07301  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS SWANK  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** n/a  
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**Office:** ACTION EA  
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**Reference:** n/a  
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